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TEXAS
Labor Market Review

TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION JANUARY 1987 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78778

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE SLIPS DOWNWARD

Hiring for the Christmas season made little impression on Statewide unemployment over the month, as the actual Texas unemployment rate inched downward from 8.8 percent in November to 8.7 percent in December. Despite the minimal monthly change, the December rate was the lowest recorded in the actual series since April, when it was 8.2 percent. There were an estimated 718,600 jobless Texans in December, down only 7,300 from November; and total employment rose moderately over the month, to 7,535,100 at mid-month. There were over 213,000 more unemployed this December than there were a year earlier, when the jobless rate was 6.3 percent.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
(In Thousands)

	Dec. 1986	Nov. 1986	Dec. 1985
United States (Actual)			
Labor Force	118,049.0	118,623.0	115,780.0
Unemployment	7,461.0	7,872.0	7,717.0
Percent Unemployed	6.3	6.6	6.7
Total Employment	110,588.0	110,751.0	108,063.0
United States (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	118,586.0	118,675.0	116,229.0
Unemployment	7,949.0	8,243.0	8,023.0
Percent Unemployed	6.7	6.9	6.9
Total Employment	110,637.0	110,432.0	108,206.0
State of Texas (Actual)			
Labor Force	8,253.7	8,215.1	7,993.5
Unemployment	718.6	725.9	505.0
Percent Unemployed	8.7	8.8	6.3
Total Employment	7,535.1	7,489.2	7,488.5
State of Texas (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	8,303.0	8,245.0	8,049.0
Unemployment	796.0	784.0	560.0
Percent Unemployed	9.6	9.5	7.0
Total Employment	7,507.0	7,461.0	7,489.0

The seasonally adjusted rate for Texas rose very slightly over the month, from 9.5 percent in November to 9.6 percent in December. The National rates in both series declined in December. The actual U. S. rate dropped from 6.6 percent to 6.3 percent, and the seasonally adjusted rate slid from 6.9 percent down to 6.7 percent.

HOLIDAY HIRING HELPS BOOST JOBS COUNT

The seasonal creation of jobs for the Christmas shopping season helped push nonagricultural wage and salary employment up by 7,700 in December. The current level of 6,694,900 was still over 70,000 below the year-ago total, due to continuing cutbacks in mining, construction and manufacturing. Despite the sizeable increases in December in trade, government, and finance, insurance and real estate, losses in other sectors held the total nonmanufacturing gain to only 9,500.

Retail trade contributed 16,600 new jobs in December, as general merchandise stores and apparel and accessory stores added substantial numbers of workers in anticipation of the final Christmas rush. Other retail trade sectors reporting job additions over the month were food stores and other retail trade, which includes jewelry and specialty stores.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
TOTAL	53,100	52,900	54,400	81,200	81,400	81,500	367,000	367,200	370,100
Manufacturing	4,900	4,900	5,400	10,100	10,200	10,000	39,700	39,900	41,500
Mining	3,300	3,300	4,100	1,300	1,300	1,700	1,000	1,000	1,100
Construction	2,900	2,900	2,900	3,800	3,900	4,000	23,600	24,300	27,000
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,700	2,700	2,800	5,800	5,900	6,200	11,500	11,500	11,200
Trade	14,800	14,500	14,600	25,100	24,800	24,700	83,700	82,900	85,200
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,700	2,800	2,900	4,300	4,300	4,400	25,500	25,500	25,300
Services & Misc.	13,600	13,600	13,500	16,300	16,600	16,200	85,500	85,700	83,500
Government	8,200	8,200	8,200	14,500	14,400	14,300	96,500	96,400	95,300
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
TOTAL	128,600	128,700	135,400	57,600	57,500	59,600	66,100	66,100	65,000
Manufacturing	24,700	25,100	26,600	15,300	15,300	16,200	9,200	9,300	9,300
Mining	1,200	1,200	2,400	1,300	1,400	1,900	100	100	100
Construction	8,500	8,600	9,400	5,800	5,900	6,400	3,200	3,200	3,100
Trans., Comm., & Util.	9,400	9,400	10,200	2,000	2,000	2,200	3,400	3,400	3,300
Trade	32,600	32,000	33,600	11,400	11,100	11,600	18,300	18,300	18,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,300	5,300	5,700	2,300	2,200	2,300	3,500	3,500	3,500
Services & Misc.	26,700	26,800	27,200	8,200	8,400	8,200	12,900	12,800	12,300
Government	20,200	20,300	20,300	11,300	11,200	10,800	15,500	15,500	14,700
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS 2/		
TOTAL	48,400	51,800	50,500	134,500	134,500	136,800	1,340.4	1,341.8	1,327.6
Manufacturing	3,100	3,000	3,600	12,100	12,100	12,800	231.7	232.3	232.8
Mining	1,000	1,000	1,300	6,200	6,200	7,700	20.0	20.0	23.8
Construction	2,200	2,200	2,800	11,000	11,400	11,100	68.4	70.8	83.2
Trans., Comm., & Util.	1,500	1,500	1,600	7,400	7,400	7,600	85.8	85.8	84.2
Trade	11,000	10,900	11,000	34,800	34,400	34,700	363.0	360.6	357.8
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	2,100	6,900	6,900	6,900	132.2	133.0	127.0
Services & Misc.	7,300	7,200	7,600	28,200	28,200	28,000	290.6	291.5	278.6
Government	20,600	24,300	20,500	27,900	27,900	28,000	148.7	147.8	140.2
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
TOTAL	179,200	178,400	179,100	512,200	510,500	511,200	71,700	71,600	72,700
Manufacturing	32,500	32,400	35,600	116,500	115,700	116,100	9,500	9,200	10,200
Mining	200	200	400	3,300	3,300	4,500	400	400	800
Construction	9,000	9,000	8,900	31,400	31,700	32,300	2,700	2,900	3,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	9,800	9,600	9,500	29,000	29,000	27,000	5,500	5,600	5,400
Trade	47,100	46,200	45,500	138,800	137,000	140,900	13,600	13,500	13,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	9,400	9,600	9,200	28,000	27,900	28,200	4,600	4,700	4,600
Services & Misc.	34,300	34,000	34,200	104,300	105,000	100,600	12,800	12,700	12,700
Government	36,900	37,400	35,800	60,900	60,900	61,600	22,600	22,600	21,900

Two moderate increases within finance, insurance and real estate pushed employment up by 2,300 in December. The largest of these gains were in the "other" segment, as small loan lenders added staff and the real estate sector picked up. Insurance carriers, agents and brokers also recorded growth due to end-of-the-year business. The hiring of additional workers in the federal and local sectors also pushed employment upward in government over the month. A portion of the increase in federal government was due to the hiring of additional mail carriers for the Holiday season.

Employers in construction cut 7,700 jobs in December, as cold, rainy weather exacerbated the downturn in building. This industry has lost over 46,000 jobs since December 1985, not far below the total number deleted in mining over the year. The job deletions in oil and gas extraction seem to have trickled to a halt, with only 200 positions cut in December. Mining is currently 58,600 below its year-ago level.

Scattered declines in several sectors of services pushed employment in this industry down by 2,700 over the month. The largest of these losses occurred in other services and miscellaneous, which includes landscaping and horticultural services as well as civic and social organizations. Despite a sizeable seasonal increase in transportation by air, transportation and public utilities actually decreased by 400 in December.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**	Dec.'86*	Nov.'86**	Dec.'85**
	HOUSTON 2/			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
TOTAL	1,458.9	1,457.9	1,506.2	68,000	68,300	67,400	35,300	35,400	35,000
Manufacturing	156.1	156.6	171.1	8,500	8,500	8,500	1,900	2,000	1,800
Mining	75.7	75.9	91.2	100	100	100	1,600	1,500	1,900
Construction	91.5	94.1	103.6	3,600	3,700	3,900	1,300	1,300	1,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	96.3	96.3	100.8	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,600	3,700	3,800
Trade	375.9	371.5	387.4	16,700	16,600	16,600	10,500	10,400	10,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	109.4	110.0	112.4	2,800	2,800	2,900	1,600	1,600	1,400
Services & Misc.	358.1	357.3	351.4	13,600	13,700	12,800	6,200	6,200	6,000
Government	195.9	196.2	188.3	19,900	20,100	19,700	8,600	8,700	8,200
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
TOTAL	66,400	66,600	69,100	92,500	92,100	93,900	86,700	87,100	86,100
Manufacturing	15,000	15,000	16,400	7,300	7,100	7,600	12,500	12,600	11,700
Mining	4,000	4,100	4,500	300	300	500	1,400	1,400	1,600
Construction	3,000	3,000	3,400	3,700	3,800	4,600	4,400	4,400	4,500
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,500	3,500	3,500	4,400	4,400	4,800	2,700	2,700	2,600
Trade	17,800	17,800	17,900	28,500	28,200	28,600	26,300	26,100	27,100
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,600	3,600	3,500	5,300	5,300	5,500	3,800	3,900	4,000
Services & Misc.	11,500	11,600	11,800	20,300	20,500	19,900	13,300	13,400	13,000
Government	8,000	8,000	8,100	22,700	22,500	22,400	22,300	22,600	21,600
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO		
TOTAL	46,000	45,900	49,700	45,700	45,700	52,300	37,000	36,800	38,100
Manufacturing	3,500	3,500	3,900	4,100	4,100	5,100	5,900	5,900	5,500
Mining	8,600	8,700	11,300	6,700	6,700	9,000	600	600	900
Construction	2,200	2,200	2,400	2,100	2,200	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,200	2,200	2,500	2,300	2,300	2,600	2,800	2,800	3,100
Trade	10,900	10,700	11,200	13,500	13,300	15,000	9,800	9,600	10,000
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,100	3,100	3,200	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,000
Services & Misc.	8,800	8,800	8,900	8,100	8,100	8,300	7,200	7,200	7,500
Government	6,700	6,700	6,300	7,100	7,200	7,400	6,800	6,800	6,800
	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
TOTAL	485,400	485,100	487,200	37,500	37,600	37,300	46,400	46,300	45,900
Manufacturing	46,500	47,100	49,700	11,100	11,100	11,700	7,100	7,300	7,700
Mining	2,600	2,600	3,300	300	300	300	--	--	--
Construction	31,900	32,200	36,300	1,800	1,800	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,200
Trans., Comm., & Util.	17,800	17,900	19,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Trade	129,400	127,800	127,700	8,600	8,700	8,200	11,900	11,600	10,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	37,300	37,300	36,800	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,900	1,900	1,900
Services & Misc.	110,600	110,700	108,800	7,200	7,200	7,100	9,000	8,900	8,600
Government	109,300	109,500	105,600	5,100	5,100	5,000	12,700	12,600	12,600
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
TOTAL	62,500	63,000	63,600	28,000	27,800	29,500	78,800	79,300	79,500
Manufacturing	10,900	11,100	11,400	3,200	3,200	3,200	15,000	15,200	16,800
Mining	2,100	2,100	2,700	2,500	2,300	3,200	100	100	200
Construction	2,600	2,700	2,900	1,500	1,600	2,000	4,300	4,500	4,500
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,800	2,900	3,100	1,500	1,500	1,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Trade	17,900	17,700	17,700	7,800	7,600	8,400	19,400	19,500	19,200
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,900	4,000	4,000	1,400	1,400	1,600	4,700	4,700	4,800
Services & Misc.	13,600	13,800	13,100	5,700	5,800	5,300	19,300	19,300	18,600
Government	8,700	8,700	8,700	4,400	4,400	4,300	12,500	12,500	11,900
	WICHITA FALLS								
TOTAL	51,400	51,300	52,400						
Manufacturing	8,300	8,300	8,400						
Mining	2,400	2,400	3,000						
Construction	2,100	2,100	2,200						
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,800	2,800	2,800						
Trade	13,100	13,000	13,300						
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,300	2,300	2,300						
Services & Misc.	10,000	10,000	9,900						
Government	10,400	10,400	10,500						

* Preliminary -- subject to revision. ** Revised.
1/ Estimates prepared by TEC in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
2/ In Thousands.

TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY ESTIMATES 1/

Industry	Dec. 1986*	Nov. 1986**	Dec. 1985**	Change From Nov. 1986	Change From Dec. 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT±	6,694,900	6,687,200	6,766,700	7,700	-71,800
Manufacturing	957,800	959,600	996,900	-1,800	-39,100
Durable Goods	556,500	557,800	583,700	-1,300	-27,200
Lumber & Wood Products	39,500	39,700	41,000	-200	-1,500
Logging Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	7,800	7,800	7,500	0	300
Furniture & Fixtures	17,200	17,400	17,900	-200	-700
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	45,300	45,900	48,800	-600	-3,500
Concrete, Gypsum & Plaster Products	20,900	21,500	23,400	-600	-2,500
Primary Metal Industries	29,300	29,600	32,700	-300	-3,400
Fabricated Metal Industries	75,000	75,200	82,000	-200	-7,000
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	38,700	39,100	42,400	-400	-3,700
Machinery, Except Electrical	111,600	111,900	129,400	-300	-17,800
Oil Field Machinery	24,300	24,400	37,300	-100	-13,000
Electric & Electronic Equipment	117,400	117,500	113,700	-100	3,700
Transportation Equipment	86,600	85,800	81,400	800	5,200
Aircraft & Parts	50,900	50,300	42,800	600	8,100
Instruments & Related Products	22,100	22,200	23,800	-100	-1,700
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	12,500	12,600	13,000	-100	-500
Nondurable Goods	401,300	401,800	413,200	-500	-11,900
Food & Kindred Products	98,800	99,200	100,300	-400	-1,500
Meat Products	27,300	27,300	27,000	0	300
Dairy Products	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0
Bakery Products	11,100	11,200	11,200	-100	-100
Malt Beverages	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
Textile Mill Products	4,000	4,000	4,500	0	-500
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	52,700	52,700	57,500	0	-4,800
Paper & Allied Products	23,400	23,200	23,100	200	300
Printing & Publishing	76,400	76,700	76,200	-300	200
Newspaper, Periodicals, Books & Misc. Publ.	38,300	38,200	38,100	100	200
Chemicals & Allied Products	73,800	73,900	77,300	-100	-3,500
Petroleum & Coal Products	31,000	31,000	32,600	0	-1,600
Petroleum Refining	28,200	28,100	29,600	100	-1,400
Leather & Leather Products	6,800	6,900	7,700	-100	-900
Other Nondurable Goods	34,400	34,200	34,000	200	400
Total Nonmanufacturing	5,737,100	5,727,600	5,769,800	9,500	-32,700
Mining	191,900	192,100	250,500	-200	-58,600
Oil & Gas Extraction	184,500	184,600	242,200	-100	-57,700
Metal & Coal & Nonmet. Mnrls., Exc. Fuel	7,400	7,500	8,300	-100	-900
Construction	397,800	405,500	444,400	-7,700	-46,600
Transportation & Public Utilities	374,000	374,400	383,200	-400	-9,200
Railroad Transportation	21,400	21,400	23,000	0	-1,600
Transportation, Except Railroads	188,300	188,500	189,000	-200	-700
Transportation by Air	54,900	53,200	48,100	1,700	6,800
Communication, Exc. U. S. Postal Service	86,500	86,500	90,400	0	-3,900
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	77,800	78,000	80,800	-200	-3,000
Electric Services	45,200	45,300	45,800	-100	-600
Gas Production & Distribution	25,300	25,300	28,200	0	-2,900
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,740,900	1,724,300	1,746,500	16,600	-5,600
Wholesale Trade	431,900	431,900	444,500	0	-12,600
Retail Trade	1,309,000	1,292,400	1,302,000	16,600	7,000
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	46,800	46,900	52,800	-100	-6,000
General Merchandise Stores	184,000	174,900	177,600	9,100	6,400
Food Stores	241,800	239,700	233,800	2,100	8,000
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	144,700	145,200	145,100	-500	-400
Apparel & Accessory Stores	89,200	84,600	91,100	4,600	-1,900
Other Retail Trade	602,500	601,100	601,600	1,400	900
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	455,600	453,300	447,500	2,300	8,100
Banking	102,300	102,300	107,500	0	-5,200
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	145,500	144,600	137,400	900	8,100
Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	207,800	206,400	202,600	1,400	5,200
Services	1,383,000	1,385,700	1,362,400	-2,700	20,600
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	85,000	85,700	84,300	-700	700
Personal Services	83,600	83,300	82,400	300	1,200
Business & Repair Services	384,000	383,500	379,600	500	4,400
Amusement, Including Motion Pictures	49,600	50,100	53,400	-500	-3,800
Health Services	362,400	362,200	350,700	200	11,700
Educational Services	73,500	74,400	72,300	-900	1,200
Other Services & Miscellaneous	344,900	346,500	339,700	-1,600	5,200
Total Government	1,193,900	1,192,300	1,135,300	1,600	58,600
Total Federal Government	192,700	191,600	189,500	1,100	3,200
Total State Government	251,900	252,100	240,600	-200	11,300
Total Local Government	749,300	748,600	705,200	700	44,100

1/ Estimated number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. ±Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
*Preliminary -- subject to revision. **Revised.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	Dec. '86*	Nov. '86**	Dec. '85**	Dec. '86*	Nov. '86**	Dec. '85**	Dec. '86*	Nov. '86**	Dec. '85**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	57,500	56,900	56,400	101,300	101,300	100,500	431,500	429,000	418,900
Total Unemployment	5,000	5,100	3,600	6,200	6,500	6,700	25,500	25,200	16,600
Percent Unemployed	8.7	9.0	6.4	6.1	6.4	6.7	5.9	5.9	4.0
Total Employment 2/	52,500	51,800	52,800	95,100	94,800	93,800	406,000	403,800	402,300
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	158,300	157,800	162,000	80,100	79,300	78,600	94,400	93,600	89,400
Total Unemployment	19,700	20,200	18,600	8,400	8,400	6,200	14,000	13,600	11,400
Percent Unemployed	12.4	12.8	11.5	10.5	10.6	7.9	14.8	14.5	12.8
Total Employment 2/	138,600	137,600	143,400	71,700	70,900	72,400	80,400	80,000	78,000
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS 3/		
Total Civilian Labor Force	56,600	60,000	57,200	170,300	169,400	164,100	1,403.5	1,405.9	1,355.3
Total Unemployment	3,500	3,700	2,700	20,300	20,600	14,000	81.6	82.8	57.6
Percent Unemployed	6.2	6.2	4.7	11.9	12.2	8.5	5.8	5.9	4.2
Total Employment 2/	53,100	56,300	54,500	150,000	148,800	150,100	1,321.9	1,323.1	1,297.7
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
Total Civilian Labor Force	219,400	217,600	210,200	653,100	646,800	629,300	106,900	106,300	105,500
Total Unemployment	24,400	24,400	19,000	42,400	42,900	29,300	11,300	11,700	9,500
Percent Unemployed	11.1	11.2	9.0	6.5	6.6	4.7	10.6	11.0	9.0
Total Employment 2/	195,000	193,200	191,200	610,700	603,900	600,000	95,600	94,600	96,000
	HOUSTON 3/			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,660.4	1,653.1	1,630.3	88,600	88,100	85,000	44,900	44,600	41,600
Total Unemployment	160.3	165.5	110.8	6,800	6,800	5,600	7,600	7,600	4,900
Percent Unemployed	9.7	10.0	6.8	7.7	7.7	6.6	16.9	17.0	11.8
Total Employment 2/	1,500.1	1,487.6	1,519.5	81,800	81,300	79,400	37,300	37,000	36,700
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
Total Civilian Labor Force	80,200	79,600	79,600	111,200	110,000	109,500	146,400	145,000	138,800
Total Unemployment	9,200	8,900	6,900	6,700	7,000	5,500	29,700	30,000	24,200
Percent Unemployed	11.5	11.2	8.7	6:0	6.4	5.0	20.3	20.7	17.4
Total Employment 2/	71,000	70,700	72,700	104,500	103,000	104,000	116,700	115,000	114,600
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	52,600	52,400	52,100	59,700	59,500	60,200	44,900	44,600	44,200
Total Unemployment	5,500	5,800	2,400	8,900	9,400	3,100	3,000	3,200	1,700
Percent Unemployed	10.5	11.1	4.6	14.9	15.8	5.1	6.7	7.2	3.8
Total Employment 2/	47,100	46,600	49,700	50,800	50,100	57,100	41,900	41,400	42,500
	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	571,400	568,200	551,900	47,500	47,100	45,500	58,300	57,600	56,700
Total Unemployment	44,300	45,100	30,900	3,800	3,800	2,600	4,900	4,600	4,400
Percent Unemployed	7.8	7.9	5.6	8.0	8.1	5.7	8.4	8.0	7.8
Total Employment 2/	527,100	523,100	521,000	43,700	43,300	42,900	53,400	53,000	52,300
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	77,600	76,600	75,500	37,400	37,100	37,500	92,100	91,400	88,400
Total Unemployment	7,200	6,900	5,000	3,700	3,800	2,400	7,500	7,400	5,000
Percent Unemployed	9.3	9.0	6.6	9.9	10.2	6.4	8.1	8.1	5.7
Total Employment 2/	70,400	69,700	70,500	33,700	33,300	35,100	84,600	84,000	83,400
	WICHITA FALLS						STATE OF TEXAS 3/		
Total Civilian Labor Force	57,500	57,000	56,200				8,253.7	8,215.1	7,993.5
Total Unemployment	4,500	4,500	3,200				718.6	725.9	505.0
Percent Unemployed	7.8	7.9	5.7				8.7	8.8	6.3
Total Employment 2/	53,000	52,500	53,000				7,535.1	7,489.2	7,488.5

1/ All estimates shown are "actual" (not seasonally adjusted).
2/ Includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers, and workers involved in labor-management disputes.
3/ In Thousands.
*Preliminary -- subject to revision. **Revised.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS*

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec.± 1986	Nov. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec.± 1986	Nov. 1986	Dec. 1985	Dec.± 1986	Nov. 1986	Dec. 1985
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$ 409.34	$ 400.48	$ 400.79	42.2	41.5	42.1	$ 9.70	$ 9.65	$ 9.52
Durable Goods	405.55	391.46	403.18	42.6	41.6	42.8	9.52	9.41	9.42
Lumber & Wood Products	287.73	278.24	267.85	41.7	40.5	39.8	6.90	6.87	6.73
Furniture & Fixtures	238.24	238.01	250.92	37.4	37.6	41.0	6.37	6.33	6.12
Stone, Clay & Glass Prods.	376.28	371.49	374.53	43.4	43.5	43.0	8.67	8.54	8.71
Primary Metal Industries	407.48	409.76	433.88	39.6	39.4	41.8	10.29	10.40	10.38
Fabricated Metal Products	384.73	367.98	379.74	42.7	41.3	42.1	9.01	8.91	9.02
Machinery, exc. Electric	422.26	407.30	418.47	42.1	41.1	43.5	10.03	9.91	9.62
Oil Field Machinery	492.20	449.91	515.73	43.1	39.5	45.2	11.42	11.39	11.41
Electric & Electronic Equip.	442.78	439.31	451.10	44.5	43.8	45.2	9.95	10.03	9.98
Transportation Equipment	560.00	525.53	553.78	44.8	42.9	43.4	12.50	12.25	12.76
Instruments & Related Prod.	342.74	328.05	348.59	40.9	39.1	42.1	8.38	8.39	8.28
Misc. Manufacturing Inds.	289.85	273.88	263.22	42.5	42.2	41.0	6.82	6.49	6.42
Nondurable Goods	413.50	410.94	398.40	41.6	41.3	41.2	9.94	9.95	9.67
Food & Kindred Products	337.39	336.56	342.17	40.6	40.5	42.4	8.31	8.31	8.07
Meat Products	266.13	265.06	268.62	39.9	40.1	40.7	6.67	6.61	6.60
Malt Beverages	824.84	790.62	750.60	47.9	46.1	45.0	17.22	17.15	16.68
Textile Mill Products	324.80	323.30	304.34	46.4	45.6	44.3	7.00	7.09	6.87
Apparel & Other Text. Prods.	200.79	192.92	191.78	38.1	37.1	36.6	5.27	5.20	5.24
Paper & Allied Products	462.53	452.55	461.47	43.8	43.1	43.7	10.56	10.50	10.56
Printing & Publishing	393.33	387.43	375.56	40.3	39.9	39.7	9.76	9.71	9.46
Chemicals & Allied Products	645.43	653.81	632.71	43.0	43.5	43.1	15.01	15.03	14.68
Petroleum & Coal Products	636.66	642.32	647.14	42.7	43.4	43.2	14.91	14.80	14.98
Petroleum Refining	661.69	667.93	677.04	42.8	43.4	43.4	15.46	15.39	15.60
Leather & Leather Products	219.85	209.04	212.40	39.4	39.0	39.7	5.58	5.36	5.35
Other Nondurable Goods	410.03	395.98	390.34	46.7	45.1	42.8	8.78	8.78	9.12
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	511.27	516.67	508.65	43.0	43.2	43.4	11.89	11.96	11.72
Oil & Gas Extraction	514.61	519.26	513.61	43.1	43.2	43.6	11.94	12.02	11.78
Met/Coal/Nonmet Mnrls. exc. Fuel	447.69	457.26	375.72	41.3	42.3	37.2	10.84	10.81	10.10
Commun., exc. U. S. Postal Service	490.86	490.03	474.81	40.5	40.7	39.7	12.12	12.04	11.96
Elec., Gas & San. Services	429.16	421.89	461.38	39.7	39.1	39.2	10.81	10.79	11.77
Wholesale & Retail Trade	228.20	225.66	227.96	32.6	32.1	32.8	7.00	7.03	6.95
Wholesale Trade	382.48	381.57	378.34	39.8	39.5	39.7	9.61	9.66	9.53
Retail Trade	183.00	178.80	180.23	30.5	29.8	30.6	6.00	6.00	5.89
General Merchandise Stores	195.74	187.85	188.15	30.3	28.9	30.2	6.46	6.50	6.23
Banking	275.38	283.35	282.36	38.3	39.3	39.0	7.19	7.21	7.24

HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

DALLAS									
Manufacturing	$ 408.31	$ 399.00	$ 402.83	42.8	42.0	42.9	$ 9.54	$ 9.50	$ 9.39
Durable Goods	433.38	421.18	426.62	43.6	42.5	43.4	9.94	9.91	9.83
Nondurable Goods	363.08	359.63	359.10	41.4	41.1	42.0	8.77	8.75	8.55
FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON									
Manufacturing	422.45	406.99	394.28	42.5	41.7	41.2	9.94	9.76	9.57
Durable Goods	451.87	431.53	412.51	43.2	42.1	41.5	10.46	10.25	9.94
Nondurable Goods	348.47	343.07	344.92	40.9	40.6	40.2	8.52	8.45	8.58
HOUSTON									
Manufacturing	493.24	488.76	488.68	44.0	43.6	43.4	11.21	11.21	11.26
Durable Goods	429.88	418.50	438.88	44.0	43.1	43.8	9.77	9.71	10.02
Nondurable Goods	564.55	568.45	556.40	43.9	44.1	42.8	12.86	12.89	13.00
SAN ANTONIO									
Manufacturing	316.50	311.08	302.95	41.7	41.7	41.5	7.59	7.46	7.30
Durable Goods	329.25	325.19	321.86	40.3	40.7	42.8	8.17	7.99	7.52
Nondurable Goods	304.13	297.89	284.92	43.2	42.8	40.3	7.04	6.96	7.07

*Figures for Texas and selected areas cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining Industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings' averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work. ±Preliminary -- subject to revision upon receipt of additional reports.
SOURCE: Texas Employment Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

The majority of the manufacturing sectors reported cutbacks in December, shrinking the manufacturing total by 1,800. The number of factory jobs has declined by over 39,000 between December 1985 and December 1986. As has been the case for most of 1986, the bulk of the job losses this month were in durable goods. This sector has been responsible for over two-thirds of the annual cutbacks in manufacturing. Although none of the monthly decreases were large, the cumulative effect was a drop of 1,300 in the durable goods total in December. The most significant declines were in stone, clay and glass products and in nonelectrical machinery. Once again this month, the only durable goods increase was in the aircraft and parts sector of transportation equipment, where newly-awarded defense contracts pushed employment upward.

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Official Publication of
TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

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Interspersed gains and losses left nondurable goods 500 below its November level. All of the over-the-month changes were moderate, as the largest was a drop of 400 in food and kindred products as workers hired to prepare food for the Holiday season were laid off. Printing and publishing declined due to seasonal layoffs. Minor upturns occurred in paper and allied products and in other nondurable goods.

HOURS AND EARNINGS RISE

The 622,300 manufacturing production workers in Texas worked a 42.2-hour week in December at $9.70 per hour, averaging $409.34 a week. Average weekly hours increased by 0.7 hour over the month, while average hourly earnings rose by 5¢, pushing the weekly wage up by $8.86. There was little change from the December 1985 levels in hours or earnings. Much of the increase in both hours worked and average hourly earnings between November and December was due to more hours worked by higher-paid employees, particularly in durable goods, following further layoffs of newer, lower-paid workers.

QUARTERLY UI BENEFITS PAID BY MSA
Fourth Quarter 1986
(October-December 1986)

Abilene	$ 2,496,580
Amarillo	2,550,858
Austin	11,533,704
Beaumont-Port Arthur	8,035,960
Brazoria PMSA	3,897,577
Brownsville-Harlingen	4,136,850
Bryan-College Station	1,500,205
Corpus Christi	8,967,609
Dallas PMSA	36,830,742
El Paso	8,172,436
Fort Worth-Arlington PMSA	18,845,623
Galveston-Texas City PMSA	4,935,367
Houston PMSA	82,989,464
Killeen-Temple	1,983,333
Laredo	2,358,693
Longview-Marshall	3,676,752
Lubbock	2,026,962
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	7,106,004
Midland	3,379,724
Odessa	5,238,177
San Angelo	1,398,090
San Antonio	17,172,142
Sherman-Denison	1,818,793
Texarkana (Bowie Co. only)	883,321
Tyler	3,037,694
Victoria	1,796,543
Waco	3,235,590
Wichita Falls	2,206,270
State of Texas	336,532,470

TEC ACTIVITIES

	Dec. 1986	Dec. 1985
Total Population	16,909,750	16,528,750*
% UI Covered Unemployment	2.7	1.6
UI Covered Employers	312,910	314,043
Total Claims Actions	963,853	561,846
Total Initial Claims Actions	92,067	74,087
Total Cont'd. Claims Actions	871,786	487,759
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	$156.12	$148.96
Total Amount Paid (Net)**	$125,348,426	$66,178,897
Total Placements	N/A	29,446

*Revised.
**Regular State UI benefits.

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